

N A R R A T I V E
OF THE EFFICACY OF THE
B A T H W A T E R S
IN VARIOUS KINDS OF
PARALYTIC DISORDERS.

[Price 1s. 6d.]

NARRATIVE
OF THE EFFICACY OF THE
BATH WATERS,
IN VARIOUS KINDS OF
PARALYTIC DISORDERS
ADMITTED INTO
THE BATH HOSPITAL,
From the End of 1775, to the End of 1785;
WITH PARTICULAR RELATIONS OF
FIFTY-TWO OF THEIR CASES.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE,
AT THE HOSPITAL EXPENCE.

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TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
LORD VERNON,
PRESIDENT;

AND THE REST OF
THE GOVERNORS
OF
THE GENERAL HOSPITAL AT BATH,

THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT
OF THE
SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION OF THE BATH WATERS
IN PARALYTIC DISORDERS

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY THE
ATTENDING PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

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P R E F A C E.

THE Bath Hospital, though instituted principally for the purpose of extending the benefits to be derived from the Bath waters, to persons whose circumstances could not otherwise enable them to make a trial of their efficacy, was likewise intended to promote medical knowledge and experience, “ by affording constant opportunities for the “ physicians and surgeons, who should be “ intrusted with the care of it, of improving themselves in the knowledge of the “ right use of these medicinal waters, and

B

“ that;

“ that, by their publishing from time to time
“ their experimental observations, the public
“ might thereby be considerably benefited.”

The late Dr. SUMMERS, Dr. OLIVER, and Dr. CHARLTON, all of whom attended this charity, have each of them in consequence given accounts of the success of their practice in the Bath hospital, which have been published; and have greatly contributed to diffuse the knowledge of the efficacy of these waters.

To add fresh evidence to that already adduced, and to explain more clearly the particular cases wherein their good effects are the most conspicuous, is the intention of this publication.

The reader will take notice, that what is here published regards paralytic cases only, which are the principal, but by no means the only instances, wherein the efficacy of the Bath waters is manifested in the Bath hospital.

The

The first thing that appears in the following work is a statement of the success of the Bath waters for the last ten years in the various kinds of paralytic complaints, as far as they could be distinguished. This is extracted carefully from the hospital register, and contains a summary of all the paralytic patients admitted during the period above specified.

To this are added, accounts of particular cases, selected by the Faculty attending the hospital, which they think tend to elucidate the efficacy of the Bath waters in various kinds and stages of paralytic diseases.

It is proper to apprise the reader, that this publication is drawn up by the physicians and surgeons attending the hospital, who have been particularly careful to ascribe in it no effects to the waters which they did not really and evidently possess. Facts alone are intended to be related, as it is from these only, when described with candour, that the medical properties of any remedy can be ascertained.

It is thought proper to insert here, in confirmation of the facts related in the following narrative, some account of the manner of proceeding at the discharge of the patients from the hospital.

In order that the effects of the waters may not be magnified or misrepresented in the account of the state of the hospital that is yearly published, it is a rule with the physicians never to set down any patient as *cured*, whilst he has any degree of the disorder for which he was admitted remaining; if the slightest degree be left, he is only set down as *much better*.

None are ever discharged as *much better*, unless their amendment be very considerable. In doubtful cases, it is usual to attribute too little, rather than too much, to the efficacy of the waters.

All the patients, after being minuted to be discharged by the physician that attends them, are examined, previous to their actual discharge,

discharge, by the physicians and surgeons at large, belonging to the hospital, who meet at the physicians' room for this purpose every Wednesday afternoon, previous to the assembling of the committee.

This is done, in order that any mistake in the report of the state of the patient's health may be corrected, previous to such report being registered.

Lastly, All the patients that are directed to be discharged are produced, after their examination by the faculty at large, before the committee; where they are again examined, and particularly as to their state of health at the time of their admission, in order to compare it with the state in which they appear at their discharge.

As a trial of the Bath waters for a long time together is often necessary, the rules of the hospital do not require the name of any patient to be signified to the general meeting on account of his stay in the house,

until he has been a patient for six months successively; and if it be certified by the attending physician, that any patient who has already remained that time, would be likely to be benefited by a longer trial, such permission is usual to be allowed.

An accurate register is kept by the apothecary of each patient's name, age, place of residence, disease, time of admission, time of stay in the house, time of discharge, and his state of health when discharged.

STATE of the PARALYTIC PATIENTS in the
BATH HOSPITAL, from January 1st, 1776,
to December 31st, 1785.

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------|------|
| Whole number admitted | — | 1102 |
| Cured | — — — | 237 |
| Much better | — — — | 454 |
| Better | — — — | 142 |
| No better | — — — | 233 |
| Dead | — — — | 36 |

Out of those set down as *no better*, 34 were improper cases for a trial of the waters, 3 were discharged for irregularity, 1 eloped, and 3 were discharged at their own request, against the advice of the physicians and surgeons that attended them. In all 42.

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| Benefited | — | 833 |
|-----------|---|-----|

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----|
| Not benefited | — | 269 |
|---------------|---|-----|

Palsy of Women after Lying-in.

Cured, 1; much better, 2; better, 1; no better, 1. In all 5.

Palsy from Cold.

Cured, 2; much better, 1; no better, 1. In all 4.

Palsy from Colic.

Cured, 117; much better, 138; better, 5; no better, 2; dead, 2. In all, 264.

Palsy from Lead and Copper.

Cured, 10; much better, 9; no better, 2. In all, 21.

Palsy attending distorted Vertebrae.

Cured, 9; much better, 3; better, 8; no better, 18; dead, 2. In all, 40.

Palsy from external Accidents.

Cured, 2; much better, 5; better, 2; no better, 3; dead, 1. In all, 13.

Palsy succeeding Convulsive Spasm.

Cured, 4; better, 2; no better, 1. In all, 7.

Palsy succeeding Fever.

Cured, 5; much better, 9; no better, 1. In all, 15.

Palsy succeeding Rheumatism.

Better, 1; no better, 2. In all, 3.

Palsy from no assignable Cause.

Cured, 87; much better, 287; better, 123; no better, 202; dead, 31. In all, 730.

Of the above, 21 were shaking palsies, which have been formerly observed not to receive

receive equal benefit from the use of the Bath waters with the other kinds, which opinion is confirmed by the following account:

Shaking Palsy.

Cured, 1; much better, 3; better, 5; no better, 12. In all, 21.

Many of the palsies for which no obvious cause could be assigned, were preceded by apoplexy, which is no reason why benefit may not be expected from the Bath waters; in such cases, many of this kind in the above account having been either cured or much relieved.

The proportion of deaths is about 1 in 30 of the number admitted. Above one-third of the patients received into the hospital for this complaint were under 30 years of age.

Much the greatest part of those patients who received a cure, or any considerable benefit, remained in the house from three to nine months and upwards. A large proportion

portion of the above cases were discharged from other hospitals as being incapable of receiving farther relief; yet several of these were relieved in the Bath hospital, and some received a perfect cure.

The physicians and surgeons belonging at present to the Bath hospital, are,

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| HENRY HARINGTON, M. D. | } Physicians. |
| DANIEL LYSONS, M. D. | |
| WM. FALCONER, M.D. F.R.S. | |

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| HENRY WRIGHT, Esq; | } Surgeons. |
| Mr. JOSEPH PHILLOTT, | |
| Mr. HARRY ATWOOD, | |





C A S E S.

C A S E I.

PALSY *after* LYING-IN.

MARY VENMORE, of Hereford, aged 30, ill three months, with a total loss of the use of her lower limbs after lying-in, was admitted August the 10th, 1785. She had lost the partial use of them three years before, by an inflammatory rheumatism; but could then walk about by the help of a stick.

After the usual preparation, this patient was ordered the waters internally and externally. But they were obliged to give place to an emetic, a solutive draught, and antifebrile medicines, until the 13th of September,

ber, when the use of the bath twice a week was resumed, and continued to the time of her discharge. In this case bark, antispasmodics, sedatives, and stimulants, were occasionally necessary to increase the strength, abate the spasms she frequently complained of, especially at night, and invigorate the constitution. Great attention, and a considerable quantity of medicine, were necessary in this case; but in the space of four months and three weeks, she was so far recovered as to be able to walk with the assistance of a stick; and there were reasonable expectations that farther benefit might have been received from the waters, had she continued bathing 'till the spring had been farther advanced: but the urgent state of her affairs at home requiring her attendance, at her own earnest desire, she was dismissed much better.

C A S E II.

PALSY after LYING-IN.

BETTY SMITH, of South-Wraxall, in the parish of Bradford, aged 28, was admitted

mitted the 15th of August 1785; ill twelve weeks with a paralytic weakness of both legs, which deprived her of the use of them, after lying-in.

Her first disorder was a violent pain in both hips and legs, attended with great tension, but no fever or inflammation of consequence. By fomentations the tension in a few days abated, but the pain increased, and had not entirely ceased at the time of her admission, neither was the tension upon her hips entirely subsided. The paralysis of her lower limbs rendered her incapable of walking, and she had a considerable degree of spasmodic contraction in them.

She was immediately put upon the external use of the water twice a week, and took a bark electuary twice a day, which at the latter end of her continuance in the hospital was exchanged for pills, composed of Pil. Rufi and Sal Martis; and she was discharged cured the 10th of November 1785, three months and one day from the time of her admission.

The physicians and surgeons belonging to the hospital are at all times attentive to the interest of the house, by ordering as little medicine,

medicine, internally or externally, as possible; and depending upon the waters alone as far as they will go. No other medicine was ordered in the present case but those above-mentioned.

C A S E III.

PALSY *from* COLD.

WILLIAM TOOP, of Frome, aged 35, ill two months with the loss of his lower limbs by going into the water to gather water-creffes, was admitted the 14th of July 1786. After a solutive draught, he was immediately put upon drinking the waters, and ordered to bathe twice a week, and take 3 grains of calomel once a week; upon the third time of his going into the bath, his limbs, which had been totally useless, were restored to their strength, and he continued well to the time of his leaving the hospital, on the 10th of August 1786, having been in it only one month and two days.

The

The above case, and others that occur, seem to countenance an opinion entertained by some, that the Bath waters do not require any medicine to be taken with them, or during the time they are drank. But these waters are by no means a panacea, and often require assistance from medicine whilst they are drank; neither will they defend those who use them externally or internally from the various disorders incident to them at their own houses or any other place than Bath: And we often find it absolutely necessary to give a considerable quantity of medicine before the Bath waters can with safety be drank.

C A S E IV.

PALSY *from* COLD.

WILLIAM BALL, of the parish of Box, 13 years of age, was seized with violent pain in all his limbs, in consequence of taking cold; his hands and feet were also much swoln; but the tumours subsiding, he
lost

lost the use of both the upper and lower extremities: some of the upper vertebræ also appeared to be dislocated. In this condition he was brought to the hospital Feb. the 13th, 1782, having then been ill 8 months.

After a solutive draught, he was immediately put upon the usual course of drinking and bathing, and a saponaceous stimulating liniment applied to the spine, which was discontinued April the 11th, upon his falling ill with the small-pox. The bathing, being thus interrupted for the space of a month, was resumed at his return, and was continued to the time of his discharge, June the 19th, 1782, after the use of the waters only three months and six days, exclusive of the month's absence on account of the small-pox.

C A S E V.

PALSY from COLD and DAMP.

DAVID HOUSE, a wine-cooper, aged 30 years, of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, was seized with a violent cold after remaining several hours in a cold, damp cellar, whilst he
was

was bottling wine. This terminated in a paralytic stroke, which was attended with great weakness in all his limbs. When he came into the house he was just able to walk without assistance; but his arms, shoulders, legs, and thighs, were extremely weak. He had also a slight head-ach, with a disposition to faintness at times. His senses were perfect, his appetite good, and his body regular. He took no medicine, except one gentle dose of physic at his coming in. He drank half a pint of the hot bath water twice a day, and bathed twice a week. He was admitted Oct. 30, 1784, and discharged Dec. 3, of the same year, *cured*. Stay in the hospital 34 days.

C A S E VI.

PALSY *from* COLD *and* DAMP.

JOHN HOLBROOK, of Burnet in the county of Somerset, aged 24, was admitted into the Bath hospital Nov. 3, 1784. About three months before, he was wet with a
C shower

shower of rain whilst at work in the harvest, and was so imprudent as to lie down on the ground, which was damp, in his wet cloaths, and to sleep there for some time. Soon after he awoke he had a paralytic attack which affected his lower extremities, but principally his left leg and foot, which at his coming to the hospital were much wasted, and very weak. He was however just able to walk with a stick. His senses were perfect, his body regular, and appetite good. He took one gentle dose of opening physic at his coming in, and an infusion of mustard-seed and horse-radish daily ; but no other medicines. He used the pump on his limbs, and drank the water in the usual quantity, which is about twenty ounces daily. He was discharged *cured* May the 11th, 1785, after 27 weeks stay.

C A S E VII.

PALSY *from sudden Check of* PERSPIRATION.

GEORGE LOVE, aged 25, of Englishcombe, in the county of Somerset, was admitted

mitted Nov. 3, 1784. His complaint was a general weakness of his limbs, which came on suddenly, on his drinking a large draught of cold water, when sweating profusely from hard labour. His limbs were much pained, but no swelling or redness. He was just able to walk, but very feebly. His health in other respects tolerably good. Soon after his coming into the house, he was attacked with some degree of a peripneumonic complaint, which rendered it necessary for him to be bled twice, and take some antimonial medicines. Notwithstanding this obstacle to his using the bath, he was on December 22d, or about seven weeks after his coming in, discharged *cured*.

C A S E VIII.

PALSY *from* COLD.

HENRY BALL, of Bradford, Wiltshire, aged 60, was admitted into the Bath hospital, June 30, 1784. He was a perfect cripple from the hips downwards, and had

great pain in his lower extremities. His health in other respects was not much affected. These complaints came on after he had been walking for a considerable time in the snow, in the month of January preceding. He began drinking the waters, and bathing twice a week, immediately on his admission. His pains soon abated, but he perceived no acquisition of strength for a long time; this however began to return at last, and about Christmas (six months after his admission) he was able to stand upright with assistance, and was put upon a pair of crutches, which he soon began to be able to use in walking. About three months afterwards he was able to come down stairs with his crutches, and to walk out into the open air. Soon after he became able to walk with a crutch and a stick, and in a little time afterwards with two sticks. At last, after fifty weeks stay, he was discharged June 15, 1785, able to walk with the assistance of one slight stick only, and perfectly well in health.

He took of medicines during his stay in the hospital, two drachms at night of the paregoric elixir, to allay his pain, and an
aloetic

aloetic pill occasionally to obviate the costiveness occasioned by the opiate. He also took the bulk of a nutmeg twice a day of a warm electuary composed of mustard-seed and ginger for some time, and a warm infusion of mustard-seed and horse-radish; but the opiate was left off when his pain abated, and the electuary and infusion not constantly used.

This case affords a remarkable instance of the efficacy of the long-continued use of the Bath waters in paralytic cases. Had the above patient been able to make a trial of the waters for five months only, little benefit would have been received, except in the abatement of his pain. As he was rather lame when he was discharged, he was not put down as *cured*, but only as *much better*, though his amendment was such as to have justified an expression of a more extensive meaning.

I have seen this patient since the above case was drawn up, and he was considerably better than when discharged; being able to walk without any assistance, and to do any work that did not require great strength.

W. F.

C A S E IX.

PALSY *from* COLIC.

JOHN EVANS, aged 36, of St. Martin's parish in Salisbury, lost the use of his hands and arms, after drinking stale small beer in hot weather when at work, and became a patient in the Bath hospital Feb. 6, 1785. His arms hung pendulous from his shoulders like flails, and his fingers were strongly contracted to the palms of his hands.

This man was troubled with a cough, and withal so weak and feverish, that he could not bear the waters, either externally or internally, until the 13th of April, when he began upon bathing, but was ordered it then only once a week, the pump was also ordered to be used upon the arms and hands. A volatile liniment of neat's-foot oil and spirit of hartshorn was afterwards applied to relieve the rigidity with which the fingers were contracted. Blisters were not neglected, nor the use of cantharides externally. In this manner he was treated, with great attention,

attention, to the 15th of March 1786, when he was discharged much better, after a continuance in the house for one year, one month, and twenty-one days.

So long a continuance in the hospital would by no means have been allowed, had not the inveteracy of the patient's complaint been obvious; his amendment, though slow, visible; and the almost impossibility of his receiving relief by any other means, probable.

C A S E X.

PALSY from COLD and PURGING.

ELIZABETH SKRINE, aged 35, of Bath-Easton, ill one month with an hemiplegy, was admitted Dec. 25, 1782. She had a cold attended with a purging, which was a disorder at that time very frequent, and upon this complaint being removed, she lost the use of her right side.

After the preparation of a solutive draught, she began drinking the waters, and upon January the third, she was ordered into the bath.

bath. She continued bathing, as usual, twice a week, to January the 22d, 1783, and was then discharged *cured*, within the space of one month.

C A S E ' XI.

PALSY *from a BILIOUS COLIC.*

JAMES LINCH, of Lullington in Wiltshire, aged 21, ill eighteen weeks with a total loss of all his limbs, from a bilious colic attended with costiveness, was admitted the 11th of April 1782.

This patient was brought into the hospital upon a bed, greatly emaciated, and unable to move hand or foot, and spasmodic affections had occasioned a contraction of the right foot, which turned inwards.

After the costive habit was amended, and he had recovered some strength from the house diet, the Bath water was administered internally; but not agreeing, recourse was had to the cortex in decoction, which being omitted, he took the bark in substance, and
drank

drank the Bath water. A blister was also applied to the top of the vertebræ, he being now strong enough to sit up. The above course of medicines was now interrupted by a cold taken; which being removed, he was ordered into the bath once a week only, his strength not being sufficient to bear it oftener. He was next ordered to drink the Bath water, and to have his wrists pumped upon. These directions were followed daily to the time of his discharge, except when interrupted by a second cold. August the 19th, a lubricating stimulating liniment was applied to the ham of the right leg, to assist the waters in removing its contraction. Having then recovered a sufficient degree of strength, he was ordered the use of the bath twice a week; and to have the right leg pumped upon on the intermediate days. A second cold put a stop to these proceedings, as above mentioned; but from the 20th of December to the 22d of January he regularly continued drinking the water, pumping his wrists, and bathing twice a week, and was then discharged much better, having recovered the strength of his hands and body sufficient to
work,

work, and walk about with the help only of a stick, after being in the hospital nine months and eleven days.

The continuance of this patient so long beyond the usual period of six months, was fully justified, by his being raised so far beyond the extreme debilitated state in which he was brought into the hospital.

Upon application for a re-admission, this man was taken into the hospital a second time, November the 27th, 1783, his right leg being yet weak. By the usual course of bathing, and pumping the leg, he was discharged *cured*, April the 28th following, having then been in the hospital, from his re-admission, five months and one day.

So great an indulgence is never granted, but in very extraordinary cases, and when there are well-grounded expectations of relief.

C A S E XII.

PALSY *from* LEAD or COPPER.

SAMUEL SMITH, aged 47, a servant to Mr. Wedgwood, in Greek-street, Soho, ill
one

one year and an half, with dropt hands, from the use of paint, was admitted April the 20th, 1786; and, by drinking the water constantly, bathing twice a week, and pumping the hands and wrists on the intermediate days, was discharged *cured* the 5th of July following, viz. after a residence in the hospital of two months and fifteen days.

C A S E XIII.

PARALYTIC AFFECTION *of the* WRISTS *from*
pointing of PINS.

WILLIAM HINTON, aged 44, of the parish of St. John's in the city of Gloucester, was admitted into the infirmary there for a paralytic weakness in the hands and wrists, occasioned by his employment in pointing pins, which exposed him to the dust of the materials. Having received little benefit, he came into the Bath hospital, March 15, 1785, and remaining till July 27, 1785, was discharged nearly *cured*.

He

He drank the waters, pumped daily on the hands, used a volatile liniment, and had blisters applied to the wrists. The symptoms arising from the use of the pin-dust are found to bear great resemblance to the effects arising from lead, in which cases, the Bath waters are found to be so remarkably efficacious.

Several patients injured by working in the brass-foundry, have been cured in the Bath hospital.

C A S E X I V .

PALSY from WHITE LEAD.

JAMES LEWIS MARKES, aged 30, of St. Mary Stratford-le-Bow, Middlesex, was admitted into the Bath hospital, Jan. 28, 1785. He was a house-painter by trade, and had suffered much from the colic, attendant on that business. When he was taken in, his bowels were easy, but his hands were totally useless, hanging down at nearly right angles with his arm. The muscles
likewise

likewise that form the ball of the thumb, were so wasted, as to form a considerable hollownefs instead of the usual prominence: After taking a gentle dose of purging phyfic, he was directed to drink the waters, to bathe twice a week, and to pump the hands daily. He also took ten grains of the aromatic pill occasionally to keep the body regular, and had blisters to his arms and hands, a practice found to be very effectual in relieving this complaint, and most successful after the pump has been some time tried. He also rubbed his hands occasionally with an embrocation of tincture of cantharides. He was discharged Jan. 11, 1786, after fifty weeks stay, *much better*, being able to use his hands very well for the common purposes of life, but not for any laborious operation. He could dress himself, cut his victuals, write, and use a pair of scissars tolerably well. The muscles of his thumb were much enlarged, when compared with their state at his admission.

C A S E X V .

PALSY from WHITE LEAD, taken internally,

ANNE CHALACOMBE, aged 30, of Pilton, Devonshire, was admitted into the Bath hospital, April 16, 1785. The case and situation of this poor woman was every way deplorable.

Some time before her admission, she had mixed up a powder, which she took to be cream of tartar and flour of sulphur, in order to give some of it to two of her children; who appearing averse to taking it, she swallowed some herself in order to encourage them to do the like. The two children soon died, and the woman was brought into a miserable condition; the powder which she had given to them, and taken herself, turning out to be cerusse, or white lead, which had been got for the purpose of rubbing such parts of the children as had been galled by the friction of their cloaths.

When admitted into the hospital, which was about two months after the above-mentioned

mentioned accident, she had nearly lost the use of all her limbs, being quite unable to dress or undress herself, or to walk, even though supported. She also laboured under a violent flooding, owing to a miscarriage, which followed immediately on her taking the cerusse. Her appetite was very bad, but her body was regular; pulse low and weak, but not too quick. She was directed on her coming in to take an electuary of the peruvian bark in the quantity of a drachm twice a day, to take twenty drops of tinct. theb. at night, and to drink a quarter of a pint of decoction of rice twice or thrice daily. This last was changed soon after for tincture of roses, of which she took about three ounces thrice a day, with six drops of tinct. theb. to each dose. She continued in this course about a month, with little alteration in her state of health. May the 30th, she was ordered to try an uterine injection made of oak bark boiled in water, with the addition of alum, and to take a carminative mixture, as her stomach and bowels appeared oppressed with flatulence. June the 10th, she began to use the pump on her hands, still

still continuing the injection. After about six weeks use of it, a clotty substance came away with it, soon after which the discharge stopt. Immediately after this she was ordered to bathe in the Cross Bath twice a week, and to continue the use of the dry pump on her hands daily. Her strength now began to return; she could move her limbs, and make efforts to use them. August the 15th, she complained of an incontinence of urine, for which a blister was directed to the os sacrum, which soon stopt it.

September the 14th, 1785, she was discharged *much better*; it being judged that change of air would be the best remedy, she having little complaint but general weakness. She was able to walk about the wards without any support whatsoever, and to walk about the town with the help of a stick. She could dress and undress herself, and perform any of the common functions of life. Her appetite was restored, and her digestion good. Her menses also had appeared regularly for the two last periods. Her stay in the hospital was nearly five months.

C A S E XVI.

PARALYTIC WEAKNESS *from* ARSENIC *taken*
internally.

MARY GUNNINGHAM, 26 years of age, servant to Mr. Michell of ———, having by mistake taken a quantity of arsenic instead of cream of tartar, was immediately affected with the usual symptoms, thirst, violent pains in the bowels, tremors and convulsions, so that her death was expected for several days. After six weeks suffering, she was admitted into the Bath hospital, in the utmost state of weakness, not being able to walk, and having lost the use of her hands. She was admitted December the 14th, 1782, and discharged in May 1783, *much better*. During her stay in the hospital she used the Bath waters internally and externally, without other medicine. In November 1783, she was again admitted, and discharged *cured* in March 1784.

C A S E XVII.

PARALYTIC WEAKNESS *from ARSENIC taken internally.*

JOHN BENFIELD, aged 9, and PAUL BENFIELD, aged 13, two brothers, in May last took by mistake, a quantity of white arsenic in bread, which had been mixed with flour for the purpose of poisoning rats, and by accident mixed with the meal that was made up into bread for the family: As nothing of the kind was suspected, and the poison gradually introduced, the bread thus impregnated was continued three weeks, and might have been longer, had not a loaf been borrowed by another family, and there produced such symptoms in those who ate of it, as caused it to be suspected. The father of the two boys mentioned above, perhaps, as having eaten most of the bread, died in great pain about eight weeks after he began to take it.

The first symptom of disorder perceived by the boys was violent retching and vomiting, attended with great foreness of the stomach

mach and belly, together with much thirst, and dryness of the mouth. In about three weeks after he first began to take the poisoned bread, the eldest began to lose the use of his limbs, a weakness and numbness beginning at the fingers and lower extremities, and proceeding upwards. It was remarkable, that although the parts so affected were numbed in respect of accuracy of feeling, they were very sore and painful. The younger began to be affected in the same manner in the course of a week. In about five weeks after the accident they were admitted into the Gloucester hospital, where they stayed until they were taken in here October the 16th, 1786.

When received into the Bath hospital, the eldest was just able to walk, but his health in other respects pretty good. The younger was costive, but otherwise his health tolerable: he was, however, totally unable to support himself, or to make any efforts towards it even when assisted.

They both drank and bathed, but took no other medicine save one gentle dose of purging physic at coming in. The eldest is now

(December 11, 1786) much stronger, but the younger is more amended in proportion, being able to walk tolerably well without assistance, and improves daily.

The weakness in the above cases was not local, or of one side more than another.

C A S E XVIII.

PALSY *from* RHEUMATISM.

MARY CLARKE, aged 43, having for several years been subject to rheumatic pains, affecting her shoulders, arms, hands, feet, and sometimes her stomach; about three quarters of a year before her admission into the Bath hospital, was affected with a violent colic, which was followed by a total loss of motion in her hands, for which she was admitted into the hospital, May the 12th, 1781; after having been electrified, and used various other modes of relief to no purpose.

Pills, consisting of ten grains of rhubarb, and three of calomel, were given her at night,

night, and she was ordered to drink the Bath water at the hot bath pump, which is the water always drank by the patients, except the physician attending thinks proper to order any other. After drinking the water about ten days, the pills were ordered to be repeated, and their use continued once a week, and the warm bath ordered to be used twice a week. After continuing this course for some weeks, the use of the dry pump was added, with stimulating oils, to the part affected. This course was interrupted once by a cold, once by a purging, once by a slight fever, and once by the application of blisters. Excepting these occasional interruptions; by bathing, drinking, and pumping, the patient was discharged *cured*, Nov. 7, 1781, having been in the hospital five months, three weeks, and four days.

C A S E XIX.

PALSY *from* RHEUMATISM.

SUSAN BOSELY, of Yatton, in the parish of Much-Marcle, Herefordshire, aged 14,

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was,

was, eighteen weeks before her admission into the hospital, seized with a numbness at her left elbow, with shooting pains that extended to the ends of her fingers; her hand and arm were cold and useless, and fingers contracted. Before the disorder fixed in the left arm, the right arm and knee had been affected; but the first complaint was in the left foot and knee, attended with swelling. Such was the state received of this patient at the time of her admission, May the 2d, 1782.

She was ordered a common solutive draught, and the next day to begin drinking the waters, and to foment her arm and elbow in the hot bath water, as hot as it could be possibly procured; at the hospital, daily. She was afterwards ordered to bathe twice a week, as the habit had been generally affected, and at night to take a drachm of volatile tincture of guaiacum.

In this manner the patient went on for some months, when a cough and feverish complaint obliged us to desist. As soon as the state of health would permit, the bath was again used twice a week, and the daily fomentation. These were afterwards left off,
and

and the pump used daily to the shoulder. Unguents composed of camphor, opium, and neat's-foot oil, were used also to the part. At last, by the use of a liniment composed of *Bates's* anodyne balsam, and thebaic tincture, equal parts, the fingers, which had obstinately resisted whatever means had been used before, gave way after two or three embrocations, and the patient was discharged *cured* the 11th of December 1782, after a continuance in the hospital of seven months and nine days.

C A S E X X.

PALSY *from* RHEUMATISM.

MARY RAY, of the parish of Butleigh in Somersetshire, aged 45, ill three months with rheumatism and loss of limbs by sleeping in a damp bed, was admitted March the 17th, 1783.

A feverish complaint prevented her beginning the use of the waters 'till the 31st of March, when she began drinking the water, and

and bathing. Bathing was soon interrupted by the application of a blister to the back; but, when that was healed, she returned to the use of the bath once a week, and a nervous electuary. This plan was continued to the 25th of June, when she was discharged *cured*, in three months and eight days.

C A S E XXI.

PALSY *succeeding a* RHEUMATIC FEVER.

EDWARD ROWLINGS, aged 26, of Keynsham, Somersetshire, admitted June 30, 1785. Several months before his admission, he was, from fatigue and exposure to weather, seized with a fever of the rheumatic kind, towards the close of which he had a paralytic attack; which principally affected his arms and shoulders, which were reduced to a state of great weakness. He was discharged August the 18th, 1786, after a stay of seven weeks, *cured*. He took a gentle purgative at his coming into the house, and about 30 drops of essence of antimony at bed
time

time every night, but no other medicine. He drank the waters, and used the bath, and the pump to the parts affected.

C A S E XXII.

PALSY *from distorted* VERTEBRÆ.

WILLIAM SMITH, of the parish of Barnsley, Gloucestershire, aged 41, was admitted the 8th of March 1781, with a paralytic weakness of the back and lower extremities, to so great a degree as to render it impossible for him to stand upon his legs, or rise from his chair. One of the vertebræ of his back was displaced, and he had undergone Mr. Potts's operation in the Gloucester infirmary to no effect.

As he was of a lax habit, he was put upon the dry diet, and ordered a volatile liniment to the spine of the back; with the common use of the hot bath twice a week; and once a week he took pills containing three grains of calomel, and ten of rhubarb. This method, with very little occasional interruption, was

was continued 9 months and 18 days, and he he was then discharged, *much better*.

August the 15th, 1782, he was admitted a second time, and after an uninterrupted course of drinking the waters, and bathing in the usual manner for seven months and eleven days, he was discharged *cured*, the 20th of March 1783.

The surgeons of the Bath hospital have not been inattentive to any mode of relief that might be expected to assist the operation of the waters. They have consulted with Mr. PORTS concerning the issues he recommends in distortions of the spine, and tried their effects several times. And the result of their experience is, that they are of opinion that they sometimes have assisted the operation of the waters, and, at other times, that they have not. They likewise have observed, that, where the distortion extends to several of the vertebræ, the cure is generally more easily effected than when the spine receives a greater pressure by its being confined to one or two only.

C A S E XXIII.

PALSY *from a distorted* SPINE.

CATHARINE HITCH, of Temple parish in Bristol, 43 years of age, was admitted the 22d of June 1785, with the loss of the use of her lower extremities from a distorted spine.

After taking one solutive draught by way of preparation, she was directed to use the bath twice a week. This being found more than her strength would bear, the bath was continued only once in a week, and a Peruvian electuary ordered to be taken twice a day, with which the Bath waters are drank of course, except orders are given to the contrary. In this manner, and with no other medicine, she went on to the 22d of September, when the pump was applied to the spine, she being then in a condition to support it; her lower limbs were also pumped upon. By this treatment being so far recovered as to be able to walk about with the help of a stick, in seven months, three weeks, and

and three days, she was discharged, *much better*, February the 15th, 1786.

This patient was admitted for the same complaint the 25th of April 1776, and discharged *cured* upon the 6th of November following.

The incurvation of the spine in this case was very considerable.

C A S E XXIV.

PALSY *from* EXTERNAL ACCIDENT.

RICHARD WOODWARD, of Tewkesbury, aged 26, gave the following account of the very singular case for which he was admitted into the hospital, Sept. 19, 1783.

As he was descending a ladder, he fell with his neck upon a door which stood open, his **head** being on one side, and his body on the **other**. This caused a violent inflammation, for which he was admitted into the Gloucester infirmary. When the inflammation went off, the muscles supporting the head
became

became paralytic, by which means his head fell upon his shoulder. In this state he came to us, having then been ill of the paralysis seven months.

As the disease appeared to be local, the use of the bath was not thought necessary. After a purge therefore, to take off any effects of his journey, the pump was immediately applied to the part affected, and a stimulating liniment rubbed in afterwards. This course was continued during his stay in the hospital, except when interrupted by two blisters, which were, at different times, applied to the top of the vertebræ; and when a slight cold at one time, and a feverish disposition at another, obliged us to desist till these complaints were removed by medicine. The water was also drank, and bark taken, except when the cold, or feverish habit, rendered them improper.

By this treatment the strength of the muscles was restored, and the patient discharged cured, January the 21st, 1784; his residence in the hospital having been four months and two days.

C A S E XXV.

PALSY *from* EXTERNAL ACCIDENT.

WILLIAM WATTS, aged 26, of Wotton-Underedge, in the county of Gloucester, was admitted November the 25th, 1780, with a paralysis of the lower extremities, and a suppression of urine. He was healthy in other respects, and met with this misfortune by a fall from an apple-tree, occasioned by a limb of the tree breaking as he was shaking the apples, and he unfortunately, falling with the spine of his back directly upon one of them. He made no water, but by the help of the catheter, before his admission to the hospital, nor afterwards.

The body, being costive, was rendered soluble by the Pil. Rufi, and he was put upon drinking the Bath water, and bathing in the usual course, which he continued to January 22d, 1781; when a stimulating liniment to the spine of the back was added, but without effect; a blister was then applied to the whole length of the spine, at different times.

Afterwards

Afterwards he was directed to take the calomel pills once a week, and a bark electuary twice a day, washing it down with thirty drops of tincture of cantharides, and twenty of spir. nitri dulcis, in a draught of Bath water. He afterwards was pumped upon the spine and sacrum, and continued taking his medicines to the time of his being discharged, *much better*, July 4, 1781, seven months and nine days from his admission.

December the 18th, 1782, he was re-admitted, the debility in the urinary passages continuing the same; but he had gained so much strength in his back and legs as to walk two or three miles, with the assistance of crutches. He was immediately ordered the use of the bath, to drink the waters, and to be pumped upon the os pubis and lower parts of the belly. To the waters were soon added thirty drops of the tincture of cantharides, to be taken twice a day. By the use of this course he began to find an inclination to make water, which he had never done before since his accident, and entertained frequent expectations that the urine would soon flow naturally; but being disappointed

appointed, a liniment was applied to the parts affected, made up with tincture of cantharides and ol. viride, and the following prescription was followed for some time:

℞. Sapon. dur. milleped. ficcat. et pulv. ā ʒi.
Balsam de Copaib. q. s. fiant Pilulæ medi-
ocres, sumat. iij bis die.

These medicines he continued taking to the time of his discharge, with the free use of the bath and pump alternately, as far as his strength would admit; and he was discharged *much better*, a second time, being now able to walk without his crutches, and had soon the free and strong use of his limbs; but the inability of discharging his urine naturally still continued to resist all our endeavours of relief. The poor man, however, had learnt to introduce the catheter himself, which made his life much more comfortable. It is somewhat worthy of remark that, when the paralytic affection was removed from his limbs, it should yet remain fixed upon the secretory organs of urine.

He was discharged June the 8th, 1783, at the expiration of six months from his admission,

mission, according to the hospital rules, there being no probability of his receiving any farther benefit from the waters after so fair a trial of them.

C A S E XXVI.

PALSY *from* EXTERNAL ACCIDENT.

THOMAS TIPPER, of Stowey, near Pensford, aged 46, whilst at work upon the side of an house, fell to the ground upon his feet, with great violence, insomuch that by the fall his knees were forced against the abdomen so as to occasion great pain in that part, as well as in his feet; the use of which he was deprived of. In nine weeks he recovered the use of his feet, but lost the use of his arms, in which state he was admitted the 8th of April 1783.

The waters were directed to be taken internally immediately; and in a short time the bath was ordered twice a week, and the shoulders to be pumped upon the intermediate days. This brought on feverish heat,

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which

which obliged us to discharge him, as improper for any longer use of the Bath water, June the 4th, 1783, having been in the house barely two months.

This case is mentioned to shew that other causes besides the use of cyder, paint, or the fumes arising from vitriol or other acrid substances, entering the body at the mouth or nostrils, and vellicating the coats of the stomach and bowels, may produce a paralytic affection of the arms, even outwardly applied. In short, by whatever means the inflammatory stimulus be caused in the stomach and bowels, the effect will be the same upon the arms.

C A S E XXVII.

PARALYTIC AFFECTION *of the ARM, in consequence of an Injury from BLEEDING.*

SUSANNA BRUNER, aged 19 years, having occasion to lose blood, was soon after seized with a paralytic stroke in the arm, in which she had been bled, in consequence of
which

which she was sent to the Middlesex hospital, where every medical assistance was given without the desired effect. In March 1782, seven months after the accident, she was sent by the faculty of the Middlesex hospital to the General Infirmary at Bath, and in July following was discharged *cured*, after having continued in the house 133 days. During this time she drank the waters, bathed twice in the week, and used the pump daily. This patient had no sensation in her arm, nor any degree of its use; but it was attended with a constant involuntary motion: electricity was tried in this case with some appearance of success, but the patient often declared she thought the use of the pump afforded the greatest relief, during the progress of her cure.

C A S E XXVIII.

PALSY *from an* ACCIDENT.

PHILIP EYLES, aged 65, of Bradford in Wiltshire, was admitted into the hospital,

October the 10th, 1784. About a month before his admission, he had the misfortune to fall from a considerable height. When taken up his left side was found to be nearly deprived of strength and feeling, in which state it was when he was brought to the hospital. His health in other respects was good. After taking a dose of gentle purging physic, he was ordered to bathe twice a week, and to pump the side affected whilst in the bath. This regimen succeeded so well, that on November the 3d, or in three weeks and three days from his coming in, he was discharged *cured*.

C A S E XXIX.

PALSY *from* LIGHTNING.

THOMAS FRANCIS, of the parish of Cadoxon, near Neath, in the county of Glamorgan, aged 20, was admitted February the 9th, 1785, ill ten months with such a weakness of his lower extremities, that he could not lift his legs from the ground.

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This man was a sailor, apprenticed to the captain of a merchant ship belonging to Neath, which sailed to St. Ives in Cornwall for pilchards, and thence to the Mediterranean, on a trading voyage. Upon the 16th of April 1784, the pilchards being unladen, and a cargo of oranges taken in for Russia, whilst the ship was lying at anchor in Gibraltar bay, he was by a flash of lightning struck down upon deck, at the instant he was preparing to go up the shrouds, and had one hand upon the ropes for that purpose. This happened at a quarter of an hour after one in the morning; and he was carried into the captain's cabin, where he remained totally senseless till four.

At the time of this shock, he received two large wounds upon the muscles of the neck, on the left side; one behind the ear, the other about an inch below it. From what appears of them at present, the uppermost might be about as big as a shilling, the lowest the breadth of half a crown. His hair was singed, and an hole appeared burnt on the side of a red woollen cap he had on, of the size of a shilling; his cloaths also smelt

strong of sulphur. He had another wound in his right arm, on the outside of the biceps muscle, just below the insertion of the deltoid, and the skin was scorched the length of the whole arm. When he recovered his senses, he found that he had lost the use of all his limbs, and could not rise, or turn in his bed for four months. The day after the accident the ship left the bay, and proceeded on her voyage to Peterburgh, only touching at Falmouth to stop a leak; and in August 1784 the patient was landed at Dublin, where he staid three weeks, and twice used an artificial warm bath. He had then some use of his arms, and could lift his hands to his head, but they shook and trembled very much, and he had no kind of use of his feet, or legs. He was then carried in the ship to Neath, the place of his abode, and thence brought to Bath in the February following, after using the cold sea-bath during the time he continued at Neath.

Upon his arrival at the hospital, he was ordered, after the usual preparation, to drink the water, which he continued to the time of his discharge. The bath he could bear but once a week. He had some assist-

ance from the bark and gum pills, as also from embrocations, and the hot pump upon his loins. He was discharged *much better*, August the 24th, 1785, able to walk all over the town with a stick; after a continuance in the house six months and fifteen days.

As the nervous system received so much injury from a flash of lightning in the present case, it is not probable that it will be strengthened by electricity. And indeed we find that many of our patients who have received benefit from the Bath waters, have, before their admission, had various experiments of electricity made upon them to no purpose.

This patient was readmitted the 6th of August 1786, his legs being then weak, and attended with tremors. By a regular course of drinking and bathing, together with the application of stimulating ointments to his knees and ancles, and the use of bark and antispasmodic medicines, he is much stronger than when readmitted, and is now in the house. But whether he will receive a compleat cure, is doubtful, it being observed that shaking palsies are seldom *much benefited* by the Bath waters.

C A S E XXX.

PALSY from the Effects of LIGHTNING.

THOMAS LLOYD, aged 42, was travelling in July 1784, during a severe thunder storm, and was found the next morning lying on the road, having been struck down by the violence of the lightning during the storm. Having lain the whole night on the wet ground, he was taken up insensible, and paralytic on the left side. About one month after, he was admitted into the Bath hospital, where he continued from August the 14th to January the 15th; during which time he drank the waters, and bathed after the usual manner in such cases, and had blisters applied to the parts affected.

As this patient was in perfect health before the accident, there remains no doubt of the lightning producing the complaint; he did not recollect any one circumstance, but was deprived of his senses instantly, without perception of pain, loss of motion, numbness,
or

or other symptom. He was discharged on the day above-mentioned, so far recovered as to resume his duty as an exciseman, which he now continues in London.

C A S E XXXI.

PALSY *succeeding an* APOPLEXY.

A SERVANT of the Rev. Mr. Cooke, of Thame in Oxfordshire, was seized with pain and dizziness in his head after much fatigue in extreme hot weather, which was afterwards followed by a paralytic affection of the right side, and the loss of speech.

He was admitted into the Bath hospital in this state, and with a defect of apprehension and memory, on January the 10th, 1782, and was discharged *cured* on February the 20th following.

During his stay of forty-one days in this hospital, he took no medicine excepting one purgative, but drank the waters and bathed twice a week, with the use of the pump.

CASE

C A S E XXXII.

PALSY *after an* APOPLEXY.

WILLIAM DAVIS, aged upwards of 40, porter to the Bath hospital, was seized suddenly by an apoplexy, July the 10th, 1785. He was totally insensible, and lay motionless, attended with snoring, and other evident symptoms of an apoplexy, for several days.

By blisters to the neck and arms, mustard and horse-radish cataplasms to the feet, and stimulants administered internally, as he recovered strength to bear them, and afterwards bracing him up with an electuary of bark and cinnabar of antimony, and drinking Bath water, he had, by August the 25th, so far regained his strength as to be able, contrary to all our expectations, to bear the bath, and was then ordered to go into it cautiously, the disorder being then a compleat hemiplegy of the right side. He soon was able to bathe in the usual manner, twice a week, and on the 25th of October following was reported as *cured*, and resumed his employment

ployment of porter; in which office he still continues, with only a small halt in his gait. He was three months and nine days ill from his first seizure to his recovery.

This case is particularly selected,

1st, To shew the advantage of an early application to the Bath waters, as most of our patients do not apply to us till they have tried every effort for recovery in other hospitals, and have often laboured under their disorders many years.

2^{dly}, To shew that palsies following apoplexies are objects of relief by the Bath waters, notwithstanding great authorities have supported a contrary opinion. And,

3^{dly}, Because the patient has been through the whole course of his disorder, and still continues, under our inspection, as well as that of the public.

C A S E XXXIII.

PALSY *succeeding* APOPLEXY.

JACOB PILLINGER, a freestone mason,
living in Lansdown-road, adjoining to Bath;
aged

aged 50, was suddenly deprived of his senses as he was at work, and when he recovered the use of them, found that he had lost the use of his left side. After being ill two months, he was admitted a patient in the Bath hospital, May the 4th, 1784.

By the usual course of drinking the water, bathing twice a week, pumping the affected side, and the use of a stimulating embrocation, he was discharged *much better*, August the 11th following, being then able to work. He continued to amend, and gain strength in his arm, till he was perfectly well; and so remains to the present time.

This is very often known to be the case with those who are discharged *much better*.

The continuance of this patient in the hospital was three months and seven days.

C A S E XXXIV.

PALSY *succeeding* APOPLEXY.

ROBERT ESCOTT, aged 54, of Lacock in Wiltshire, was admitted into the Bath hospital, Nov. 18, 1784. About two months before,

before, he had an apoplectic attack, which when it went off left him paralytic. His left arm and hand were very feeble, and his leg and thigh of the same side were also weak, but not so much so as to hinder his walking. He had great pain in his thighs, and had a constant, but not very strong vertigo. His health in other respects was good. He was directed to take a gentle purgative, and to use the bath twice a week, and to pump the part affected. On January 26th, 1785, after nine weeks stay, he was discharged *cured*, being perfectly free from all complaints. He used no other remedy than what is mentioned above.

C A S E XXXV.

PALSY *succeeding* CONVULSIVE SPASMS.

EDWARD LIDIARD, of Didmarton, Gloucestershire, aged 22, was admitted December the 12th, 1783, ill six months with a paralysis of his lower extremities, which succeeded to convulsion fits, occasioned by hard drinking.

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The extreme debilitated state of this patient, attended with a very lax, feverish habit, swoln legs, and a considerable tendency to a dropsy, rendered it necessary to abstain from the waters, and administer corroborating medicines, to the 13th of January; when he was directed to drink the water, but was obliged to omit it again to the 22d. He was then ordered to take half an ounce of tincture of bark, and a quarter of a pint of Bath water twice a day; and February the 13th, he was ordered the medicines three times a day, and continued them to February the 25th, when the dose of the water was increased from a quarter to half a pint twice a day; and March the 8th, continued three times a day.

March the 27th, the strength of the appetite and constitution being greatly improved, he was ordered calomel pills, containing ten grains of rhubarb and three of calomel once a week, they having been given before occasionally. April the 7th, a decoction of bark with half an ounce of the tincture was directed, and taken three times a day to the time of his being discharged, *cured*, May 19, 1784, having been in the hospital 5 months.

It is to be observed that, on account of the debilitated state of body, attended by a tendency to a dropfy, and a diarrhœa, and the stomach being the part originally affected, bathing was not used, but the waters were used internally only, assisted by bark and other corroborating medicines,

C A S E XXXVI.

PALSY *succeeding* FEVER.

THOMAS GIBBS, of the town of Dursley in Gloucestershire, aged 50, had an obstinate costiveness after a fever, and at the time of his admission to the Bath hospital, 29th of July 1782, had lost the use of his right-hand four months. The left was also weak, and was affected at the same time with the right, but not to the same degree.

After a solutive draught, this man was immediately put upon drinking the waters daily, bathing twice a week, and pumping on the hand affected upon the intermediate days. No other application, external or internal, was

was used, except a stimulating liniment to the wrists ; and he was discharged *cured* the 18th of December following, having been in the hospital four months, two weeks, and five days.

C A S E XXXVII.

PALSY *succeeding* FEVER.

ANN FARNELL, aged 23, of Atcham, near Shrewsbury, had lost the use of her lower extremities totally for eighteen months, after a fever, and was admitted at the Bath hospital the 8th of March 1784.

After the usual preparation of a purgative, she began drinking the water, and continued its use to the time of her quitting the hospital. Upon the 18th of March, viz. after she had drank the water ten days, the use of the bath was added to that of drinking the water, and both were continued to the 2d of June, at which time she was discharged *cured*, and has continued well ever since.

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The only medicines she took were an electuary, of gum Arabic; on account of some nephritic symptoms, soon after her arrival, and some pills, composed of equal parts of Sal Martis, and Pil. Rufi, which were of service to her upon another occasion.

Her residence in the hospital was two months, three weeks, and one day.

C A S E XXXVIII.

PALSY *succeeding* INTERMITTENT FEVER.

WM. REED, aged 22, from Brampton, Huntingdonshire, was admitted a patient into the Bath Hospital, June 24, 1784. His complaint was a hemiplegia of the right side, which came on after several attacks of a severe intermitting fever. He was very weak, and obliged to support himself with a crutch and a stick. His speech and senses were not affected, but at times he was subject to head-ach. His health in other respects was tolerable. To relieve the head-ach, he had, at his coming in, six ounces of blood taken

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from

from between his shoulders by cupping, and a gentle dose of purging physic, which gave his head some relief. He was also directed to forbear drinking the waters, and ordered to use the pump on the side affected. On July the 2d his head-ach returned, attended with vertigo, for which eight ounces of blood were directed to be taken from the arm, and a blister applied to the nape of the neck, which was directed to be kept running. This relieved his head-ach and vertigo, and enabled him to use the bath and pump with little interruption afterwards.

He was discharged *much better*, December 22, 1784, after a stay of twenty-six weeks. His head-ach and vertigo were entirely gone, and his strength so far increased as to enable him to walk tolerably well with two sticks.

C A S E XXXIX.

PALSY *succeeding a* PUTRID FEVER.

THOMAS ELWORTHY, aged 40, of Cullumpton in Devonshire, was admitted
February

February the 12th, 1785, into the Bath hospital, for a paralytic complaint that came on after a putrid fever. His lower extremities were so weak that he could not support himself without two crutches, and his arms also were much debilitated.

After taking a gentle purgative, he was directed to drink the Bath waters, and to bathe and pump the parts affected twice a week. He also took every night at bed-time about one-third of a grain of emetic tartar to promote perspiration; and ten grains of the aromatic pill occasionally. He had likewise a blister across his loins, and one on his right knee, during the running of which he used the pump three times a week in place of the bath.

On June 9, 1785, or in seventeen weeks from his admission, he was discharged *cured*.

He had regained the strength of his legs and thighs, walked perfectly well, and his hands and arms were also strong and active.

C A S E XL.

TREMOR of the LEG and ARM, succeeded by a
PARALYSIS.

LYDIA REEVES, aged 23, of the parish of Greenwich in Kent, was afflicted for some months with a periodical tremor of the right leg and arm, succeeded by a numbness of the parts affected, which deprived her of their use. There was no apparent cause to induce this complaint. She was admitted into the Bath hospital the 11th of April 1784, drank the waters after a purge had been given, and bathed twice a week. Electricity was tried without any good effect; pills with myrrh and assafœtida were given twice a day, washed down with the camphor julep, and a volatile liniment, with tinct. thebaic. and camphor, made use of.

She was discharged *cured*, on July the 7th, having continued her course of drinking and bathing eighty-seven days.

CASE

C A S E XLI.

HEMIPLEGIA *attended with* SPASMODIC AFFECTION *of the* LOWER EXTREMITIES.

JANE ORIEL, aged 19, was seized with a paralytic stroke on the right side, attended with difficulty of articulation: her legs were generally in motion, which was of that kind which attends the Saint Vitus's dance; when most free from these spasmodic affections, her head was confused, and sickness came on in the stomach; the catamenia very irregular, and deficient in quantity. She was admitted a patient in the Bath hospital, from Wells in Somersetshire, June the 28th, 1782, and was discharged *cured*, August the 28th following.

During her stay in the house for these sixty-one days, she drank the waters, bathed twice a week, and took an electuary with bark, valerian, castor, and sal martis,

C A S E XLII.

PARALYTIC AFFECTION *of all the* LIMBS,
with LOSS *of* SPEECH.

JOHN NEWMAN, 25 years of age, was seized with a paralytic stroke after severe duty as a marine in 1781, which deprived him of the use of all his limbs, attended with loss of speech; and his mental faculties greatly affected. After having been a patient in Portsmouth hospital for some time, he was admitted into the Bath hospital, October the 25th, 1783, under so general a state of weakness as to require his being supported by straps in his chair, and unable to articulate. Having been in the house two or three months without apparent benefit, he was going to be discharged as incurable; but the nurse having observed some slight appearance of amendment, he was continued in the house, and daily increased both in strength and power of motion. At the end of six months, his improving state of health induced the

the faculty to prolong his stay, beyond the usual time. As his strength increased, some efforts towards articulation took place; he made attempts to sing, and after some weeks pronounced several words distinctly.

So remarkable and gradual an improvement occasioned his being continued till May 1785; at which period he was able to walk about the town with one stick, conversed intelligibly, and had the perfect use of his mental faculties.

After his discharge he wrote several letters replete with grateful acknowledgments of the benefit he had received.

During his stay in the hospital a general eruption appeared on the skin, which seemed to favour his recovery.

This patient persevered in the use of the Bath waters internally and externally, for nineteen months, excepting the time of the eruption, for which he took a cinnabar electuary with absorbents.

C A S E XLIII.

CONTRACTION *of the* HANDS, with PARALYTIC AFFECTION *from an unknown Cause.*

SARAH ALRIC, aged 35, was admitted into the Bath hospital for a contraction in her hand, attended with great pain all up the arm, and with some degree of swelling; in other respects in good health; after using the waters from March 1771 to July 24, 1771, she was discharged *cured*.

She was re-admitted for a paralytic weakness of the left side in December 1774, and discharged *cured* in June 1775.

This patient was re-admitted a third time in January 1783, and discharged *cured* in July 1783, of her paralytic return of weakness and contraction, by the use of the pump and drinking the waters. The last time her feet were contracted to a great degree.

It may not be improper to observe, that in this case, the patient's recovery happened each time, from the use of the Bath waters during the warm spring months.

CASE

C A S E XLIV.

PALSY from no assignable Cause.

WILLIAM OKEY, whose father keeps the Saracen's-Head inn in Gloucester, aged 18, ill eight months with a weakness in his wrist and arm, by which his hand became pendulous, and entirely useless, was admitted the 20th of September 1785. The disorder began by a pain in his little finger of the same hand, without the least inflammation, and attended by a black speck at the second joint. He appeared to be a robust strong man, but at the time of admission, complained that his knees were so weak as almost to make him apprehensive they would give way under him.

He had been under the care of Mr. *Cheston* at Gloucester, who had used the artificial warm bath at the infirmary there, assisted by stimulating embrocations, and every other means that ingenuity and attention could suggest, to preclude the necessity of this person coming to Bath, but without effect.

Upon

Upon his admission, he was immediately put upon a course of bathing, drinking, and pumping the part affected, and ordered a stimulating liniment to the wrist and arm. He required nothing farther than the usual hospital attendance, and was discharged *cured*, the 24th of May 1786, his hand and constitution being perfectly restored to their full strength, in eight months.

C A S E XLV.

PARALYSIS *of the* MUSCLES *of* DEGLUTITION.

DINAH STOKER, aged 52, ill several years with a paralysis of the muscles of deglutition, was admitted the 13th of March 1781. This patient had been in the hospital in 1765, for the same complaint, and was then discharged October the 2d, *much better*.

When she now applied for relief, she could not get down the least particle of solid food, neither could she swallow liquids. Gellies, or gelatinous substances, dissolving in her mouth, were her only means of support. As
she

she could not swallow liquids, the Bath waters were of no use internally, neither would her weak state permit their application externally.

In this situation she was directed to receive frequently the vapour of a decoction of horse-radish and mustard-seed into her mouth and throat, and to apply the same externally, and to put a bit of lenitive electuary into her mouth, and let it dissolve gradually, in order to remove a costive habit. When she was recovered from the fatigue of her journey, a blister was applied to her throat; and when that was dried up, the Hot Bath pump was applied to the part, and a stimulating gargle used frequently internally. By these means apthæ were thrown out in the mouth and throat; which being removed by the usual methods of prescription in such cases, a blister was applied to the top of the vertebræ, and a decoction of bark, warmed with the tincture, given to strengthen the debilitated habit. As the original complaint became better, the disorder affected one arm, to which a blister was applied with success, and a consequent pain removed by an anodyne balsam.

balsam. By this time she was sufficiently strengthened to bear the use of the bath, which she went into twice a week to the time of her discharge, being all the time supported by a decoction of bark and snakeroot, with the tincture of bark. She left the hospital *cured*, July 18, 1782, after a residence of three months and five days.

C A S E XLVI.

GENERAL PARALYTIC AFFECTION, *without any assignable Cause.*

WILLIAM DURSTON, aged 22, of Axbridge, Somersetshire, was admitted into the hospital, November 3, 1784. His complaints were, much pain in his side, back, and limbs, attended with a great degree of weakness, particularly of his hands. He had a considerable pain in respiration, his appetite was small, his digestion but indifferent, and his general health bad. He had however no fever, and his body was regular.

After

After taking a gentle purgative, he was directed to bathe twice a week in the Cross-bath, and after bathing to rub the part that was most pained with a stimulant embrocation composed of tincture of cantharides and spirit of sal ammoniac. He also took four ounces of a warm infusion of horse-radish and mustard-seed twice a day, and a spoonful now and then of lac ammoniacum for his breath.

December 13, being rather feverish, and his pains being troublesome, he was bled to about eight ounces, had a small blister on his neck, and took some antimonial medicines. He soon recovered of his fever, but the severity of the weather prevented his bathing again until January the 14th, when a similar course to that mentioned above was resumed.

On May the 18th, after twenty-eight weeks stay, he was discharged *cured*.

C A S E XLVII.

GENERAL PARALYTIC AFFECTION, *without any assignable Cause.*

THOMAS NIGHTINGALE, aged 30, of Watford in Hertfordshire, was admitted into the Bath hospital, December 4, 1784. His complaint was general weakness, being but just able to walk with a stick, a constant trembling, particularly of his hands, which was very great. His sight was very dim, and he had a considerable degree of vertigo. His body was costive, but his appetite and digestion pretty good; he had no fever or heat, and his pulse, though weak, was regular and moderate.

After taking a gentle purgative, he was ordered to drink the waters daily, and to bathe twice a week, and to use the dry pump to his arms, hands, and feet, on the days he did not bathe. He also took ten grains of the aromatic pill occasionally, and the bulk of a nutmeg of a warm electuary of mustard and ginger twice a day. On July 20, 1785, he was discharged *cured.*

CASE

C A S E XLVIII.

HEMIPLEGIA *without any assignable Cause.*

JOSHUA CLUTTERBUCK, of Easington in the county of Gloucester, aged 26, was admitted into the Bath hospital on Nov. 20, 1784. About three months before, when in good health, he was suddenly seized with a weakness of his whole right side, attended with numbness and coldness of the weak parts, which were also very painful. He was just able to walk, though very feebly. His health in other respects was good. After taking a gentle purgative, he was ordered to drink the waters, and pump the parts affected every day; and to take four ounces of a warm infusion of mustard and horse-radish once a day, and a small quantity of an antimonial powder at night to promote perspiration, as his skin felt harsh and dry.

December the 17th, he complained of a pain and vertigo of his head, and was ordered a blister to the nape of his neck, and to take a gentle purgative, and to omit the water and pump.

December

December the 24th, his pain continuing, he was ordered to apply six leeches to his temples, and to take about one-third of a grain of tartar emetic twice a day for some days.

January 5, 1785, he again began to bathe, pump, and drink the water, which he continued till February the 4th, mending daily; when his pain returning, he was bled to eight ounces, took a gentle purgative, and had the blister on his neck repeated.

Feb. 18, some pain of his head remaining, he was bled to six ounces, which gave him relief. He also took a gentle purgative.

Feb. 21, he began to bathe and pump again with great advantage; and on March 9th, 1785, after fifteen weeks stay, he was discharged *cured*.

The above case affords a remarkable instance, that pretty considerable evacuations may be used during a course of the Bath waters, without destroying their good effects.

The patient was thrice bled, took four doses of purging physick, besides what evacuations were procured by the antimonials, and had two blisters. Yet bating the symptoms

toms that seemed to require these remedies, his health was in a progressive state of improvement from the time of his admission, till his discharge.

C A S E XLIX.

HEMIPLEGIA *without any assignable Cause.*

BETTY MERCHANT, aged 40, of Charter-House-Hinton in the county of Somerset, was admitted into the Bath hospital, Feb. 6, 1786, for a palsy of her right side, which came on about six weeks before. When admitted she was a perfect cripple, unable to move or stand, or help herself in almost any respect. Her limbs too were afflicted with vehement pain, her health in other respects not much affected. She was directed to drink the waters daily, to bathe twice a week, and to take four grains of Cayenne pepper daily made into pills. She took no other medicines, and was discharged *cured* May 17, 1786, after fourteen weeks stay.

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When discharged, she walked home to Charter-House Hinton, which is five miles, and was active, and had the perfect use of her limbs.

The following CASES were selected too late to be placed in their regular Order.

C A S E L.

PALSY attended with SCIATICA.

JAMES FISHER, of St. Martin's, Westminster, aged 30, ill three years with a sciatica, or what at the hospital is usually called a hip case, was admitted June the 27th, 1781. He had totally lost the use of the leg affected, and could not move but by the assistance of crutches.

As this patient was feverish; it was necessary to abstain from the use of the waters entirely till the fever was removed by medicine; when this was effected, the warm bath was ordered twice a week, and continued

tinued till the surgeons, finding that the fever was removed, and no inconvenience arising from the use of the bath, thought proper to direct the dry pump to the hip and leg daily, or as often as the patient's strength would bear it; and that a stimulating ointment should be rubbed in; the water was also ordered to be drunk at the same time. In this manner things proceeded to September the 3d, when a costive habit rendered it necessary to order the lenitive electuary. This brought on a diarrhœa, which required astringent medicines occasionally to restrain it; camphor, and other antispasmodic medicines, were also used on account of spasmodic rigors, which often affected the patient, especially in the night, which are not uncommon in such cases, but are rather unfavourable symptoms. However, the six months prescribed by the rules of the hospital for the extent of the patient's residence being expired within a day or two, and his disorder being *much better*, he was discharged as such December the 19th, 1781.

He was re-admitted the 10th of July 1782. He was now much better than when discharged,

charged, having more flesh upon the affected leg, and more use of it. The bath twice a week, the pump once a week, and a stimulating ointment to the part, were now directed, and their use persisted in all the time he then resided in the house, except once when a blister was applied to the hip. The antispasmodic medicines, as before, were ordered occasionally, and a linctus for a cough. No other medicine was taken, and he was discharged a second time *much better*, December the 4th, 1782, having resided in the hospital four months, three weeks, and five days.

February the 12th, 1784, this patient was admitted into the hospital a third time, having gained so much strength after his last discharge as to be able to walk with one stick only, whereas, when before discharged he had parted with only one of his crutches.

After the usual preparation, the bath was ordered three times a week, but it occasioned a fever, which required the lancet as well as medicines to remove it. March the 18th, the bath was ordered twice a week, but omitted upon an eruption appearing. This soon went off, and the bath was again used
until

until the time of his leaving the hospital, three times a week, when he was discharged *cured*, May the 19th, 1784, having been in the hospital this last time three months and seven days.

This case is a strong instance of the benefits to be expected from attention and perseverance in the use of the Bath waters.— That medicines could not effect a cure may be fairly concluded from the patient having been ill three years before his admission to the hospital; and that the waters alone could not obtain the desired end is evident, by the necessity of medicines to remove the fever raised by the effects of the waters.

Another thing to be observed is, that the patient recovered strength during the time the use of the waters was intermitted. This frequently happens; and instances might be given where the waters have appeared to have no influence over paralytic limbs during the time of their application, and yet the patients have recovered, without using any other application after their return home.

C A S E LI.

PALSY without any assignable Cause.

MARY BISSAGER, aged 45, of the town of Wotton-Underedge, Gloucestershire, was admitted the 18th of August 1782, ill eleven weeks with a paralysis of the left hand, and weakness and atrophy of the left arm.

This patient had been admitted into the Bath hospital the 27th of September 1778, for a rheumatism, which then chiefly affected the same arm. She was then discharged *much better*, December the 30th following, and after her discharge became perfectly well.

Upon the present occasion her first attack was in the tongue, when she continued speechless for the space of eight hours. In a few hours afterwards she recovered the free use of her tongue, when it was discovered that she had lost the use of her left arm.

After the usual preparation, the waters were taken internally, and the bath used. The bath was afterwards omitted, and the pump used to the hand and arm, with stimulating

lating liniments, occasionally, as her surgeon directed. Notwithstanding the daily use of the pump, and every other effort that could be suggested, the fingers, which were rigidly contracted to the hand, remained immovable; but upon the application of equal parts of Bates's anodyne balsam, and thebaic tincture, they gave way, and the patient was discharged *cured*, March the 12th, 1783, having been in the hospital six months, three weeks, and four days.

C A S E LII.

PALSY without any assignable Cause.

THOMAS POLLARD, of Westwood, near Crediton, Devonshire, ill five years with weakness, numbness, and coldness of the right hand and arm, was admitted the 15th of November 1784. The disorder came on suddenly, without any assignable cause.

The bath was ordered twice a week, and the water directed to be drunk daily. The disorder being chiefly local, the bath, after a few

few trials, was omitted, and the use of the pump directed three times a week, with a stimulating liniment. This course was continued, with the use of the bath once a week, to the time of the patient's discharge, 25th of May 1785, when he was sent home *cured*, greatly to the credit of the waters, and contrary to the expectations of all his attendants. He had been in the hospital six months and ten days.

N. B. It is proper to observe, that the whole of the Cases above described occurred since the year 1780.

F I N I S.

